

**CC Docket No. 06-6**  
**Indian Creek Comm Unit S D 425**  
**BEN 135729**

May 17, 2017

I am requesting a deadline waiver for Form 471 # 171048969

The reason I am filing for a deadline waiver request is as follows. I filed the first time in March 2017. On 4/13/17, I was contacted by Ed Harvey with the DeKalb County Foundation (a current vendor) and Kevin Finley with NIUNet (a current vendor) and told that I had incorrect information regarding the services I currently have and was requesting (**attachment A**). I called Usac and talked to Jim, who told me that I needed to create a new Form 470's with the correct information. I exchanged several calls and emails with our current providers to determine exactly what service we currently were receiving. I filed Form #170082500 (**attachment AA**). After reviewing the 2 forms with Ed Harvey, he said that I still had incorrect information regarding the services I was requesting, so I filed Form #170082530 (**attachment B**).

On 4/13/17, after leaving for the day for a holiday weekend (Good Friday), Joe Freddoso from USAC sent me an email indicating that #170082530 was filed incorrectly (**attachment D**). Upon returning to work on 4/17/17 I emailed back and forth with Joe (**included in attachment D**), and eventually spoke by phone to discuss. He indicated that there had been a change in rules from 16 to 17 regarding equipment and management. Throughout the time of talking with people more familiar with erate and the services I currently have and want to keep, I was told that there had been recent changes that had put a few other Districts in my region in the same position of having to file differently than in previous years. I was told this by Kevin Finley @ NIU.

I called USAC and talked to Lindee. She told me to go ahead and file a new Form 470 as usual (as technically there is no deadline, the deadline is for the 471) and certify it. I should then take bids as usual and when the 28 day window had passed:

- File the Form 471 like normal (out of the window) but it will let you file it anyway.
- Then file a "FCC deadline waiver appeal"
  - Attach copies of the original 470's filed, email correspondence from Joe Freddoso, correspondence with her (**attachment E**), and an outline of why I had missed the deadline.

On 4/18/17 I filed and certified Form 470 #170082939 (**attachment C**). After waiting the 28 days, I filed and certified Form 471 #171048969 on 5/16/17 (**attachment F**)

I have been with this District for 17 years and we have always used a consultant. With a new Superintendent this year, I was made responsible for all ERATE filings. I have never had any training or experience in this area. I reached out to Jamie Baiter at ISBE (attachment G) who referred me to Lori Whitman at our local LTC (attachment H), who just referred me to websites. These are the people who have previously organized and promoted the ERATE trainings within Illinois. There have been no recent trainings provided in the state of Illinois (attachment I). I have watched many videos and read online documents trying to learn the filing process on my own. I did seek help from other neighboring Districts who were kind enough to provide me with copies of their FY16 Form 470 & Form 471 for a reference. I also printed off everything for our District that was done by our consultant since 2010. Our services have changed greatly in that time, as well as the filing is much different than what is now being done online.

This is what happened to the best of my knowledge after reviewing my notes.

I respectfully request that you consider my deadline waiver for Form 471 # 171048969 which was filed within 1 week of the deadline and as quickly as I could, given the 28 day window.

If you have any further questions, my contact info is below.



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